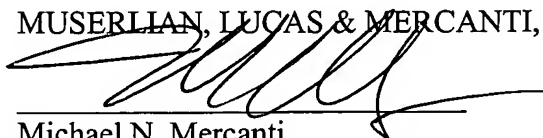


### REMARKS

This preliminary amendment is being submitted to insert a claim of priority based on a foreign application into the specification. It is respectfully submitted that no new matter has been entered and that the present application is in all respects complete and in condition for favorable consideration.

Respectfully submitted,

MUSERLIAN, LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP



Michael N. Mercanti

Registration No. 33,966

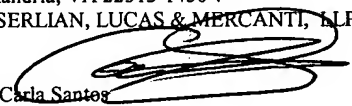
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"Express Mail" mailing label no. EV 543 710 859 US Date of Deposit <u>July 12, 2004</u> I hereby certify that this correspondence and/or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above, in an envelope addressed to: "Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450". MUSERLIAN, LUCAS & MERCANTI, LLP By:  Carla Santes
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